

WHY

Nor can that person who accounts it his recreation to see one man wallowing in his filthy revels, and another infamous by his sensuality, be so impudent as to allege, that all the enormous draughts of the one can leave the least relish upon the tip of his tongue; or that all the fornications and whoredoms of the other can quench his own lust. *South's Sermons.*

WHOREMASTER. } *n. f.* [where and master or monger.] One who keeps whores, or conveys with a fornicator.

What is a *whoremaster*, fool? a fool in good cloaths and something like thee. *Shakespeare.*

As if we were drunkards, by a planetary influence; an admirable evasion of *whoremaster* man, to lay his goatish disposition on the change of a star. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

Art thou fully persuaded that no *whoremaster* nor adulterer shall have any inheritance in the kingdom of God? and dost thou continue to practise these vices? *Tillotson's Sermons.*

A rank notorious *whoremaster*, to choose, *Dryden.*

If he were jealous, he might clip his wife's wings; but what would this avail, when there were flocks of *whoremasters* perpetually hovering over his house. *Addison's Guardian.*

WHORESON. *n. f.* [where and son.] A bastard. It is generally used in a ludicrous dislike.

Whoreson, mad compound of majesty, thou art welcome. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*

Thou *where'st* in Zed! thou unnecessary letter. *Shakespeare.*

How now, you *whoreson* peasant, *Shakespeare.*

Where have you been these two days loitering? *Shakespeare.*

Frog was a cunning, fly *whoreson*, quite the reverse of John. *Arbutnot's History of John Bull.*

WHORISH. *adj.* [from where.] Unchaste; incontinent.

You, like a lecher, out of *whorish* loins *Shakespeare.*

Breed out your inheritors. *Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida.*

By means of a *whorish* woman a man is brought to a piece of bread. *Prover. vi. 26.*

WHORTLEBERRY. *n. f.* [whortleberry, Saxon.] Bilberry. A plant.

The flower consists of one leaf, shaped like a pitcher; from whose empalement arises the pointal, fixed like a nail in the upper part of the flower, which becomes a soft umbilicated fruit or berry full of juice, in which are inclosed seeds, for the most part small. *Miller.*

WHOSE. *n. f.*

1. Genitive of *who*.

Though I could *Shakespeare.*

With barefac'd power sweep him from my sight, *Shakespeare.*

And bid my will avouch it, yet I must not; *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

For certain friends that are both his and mine, *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

Whose loves I may not drop. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

2. Genitive of which.

Thy name affrights me, in whose sound is death. *Shakespeare.*

Those darts whose points make gods adore *Prior.*

His might, and deprecate his power. *Prior.*

WHO'SO. } *pronoun.* [who and fever.] Any, without re-

WHOSSEVER. } striction.

Who'so is out of hope to attain to another's virtue, will seek to come at even hand, by depressing another's fortune. *Bacon.*

Let there be persons licensed to lend upon usury; let the rate be somewhat more easy for the merchant than that he formerly payed; for all borrowers shall have some ease, be he merchant or *whossoever*. *Bacon.*

He inclos'd

Knowledge of good, and evil, in this tree, *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

That *who'so* eats thereof, forthwith attains *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Wisdom. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Whossoever hath Christ for his friend, shall be sure of counsel, and *whossoever* is his own friend will be sure to obey it. *South's Sermons.*

WHURT. *n. f.* A whortleberry; a bilberry.

For fruits, both wild, as *whurts*, strawberries, pears and plums, though the meaner sort come short, the gentlemen stoop not far behind those of other parts. *Carew.*

WHY. *adv.* [why, Saxon.]

1. For what reason? Interrogatively.

They both deal justly with you; *why?* not from any regard they have for justice, but because their fortune depends on their credit. *Swift.*

2. For which reason. Relatively.

Mortar will not have attained its utmost compactness till fourcore years after it has been employed; and this is one reason *why*, in demolishing ancient fabricks, it is more easy to break the stone than the mortar. *Boyle.*

No ground of enmity

Why he should mean me ill. *Milton.*

Such, whose sole bliss is eating; who can give *Dryden.*

But that one brutal reason, *why* they live. *Dryden.*

3. For what reason. Relatively.

—AY, sir, and wherefore; for they say, *Shakespeare.*

WIC

I was dispatch'd for their defence and guard; *Milton.*

And listen *why*, for I will tell you now. *Milton.*

We examine the *why*, the what and the how of things. *L'Estrange.*

Turn the discourse; I have a reason *why* *Dryden.*

I would not have you speak so tenderly. *Dryden.*

Ninus' tomb, man; *why*, you must not speak that yet; that you answer to Pyram. *Shakespeare.*

You have not been a-bed then?

Why, no; the day had broke before we parted. *Shakespeare.*

Whence is this? *why*: from that essential suitableness which obedience has to the relation which is between a rational creature and his Creator. *South's Sermons.*

WHYNOT. *adv.* A cant word for violent or peremptory procedure.

Capoch'd your rabbins of the synod, *Hudibras.*

And snap'd their canons with a *whynot*. *Hudibras.*

W1. [Sax.] Holy. Thus *winnum*, holy peace; *wintra*, eminent for sanctity; *alwi*, altogether holy, as Hierocles, Hieronymus, Hosius, &c. *Gibson's Camden.*

W1C. *W1ch*. Comes from the Saxon *wic*, which according to the different nature and condition of places, hath a threefold signification; implying either a village, or a bay made by the winding banks of a river, or a castle. *Gibson's Camden.*

W1CK. *n. f.* [seece, Saxon; *wicke*, Dutch.] The substance round which is applied the wax or tallow of a torch or candle.

But true it is, that when the oil is spent, *Shakespeare.*

The light goes out, and *wick* is thrown away; *Shakespeare.*

So, when he had resign'd his regiment, *Shakespeare.*

His daughter 'gan despise his drooping day. *Fa. Queen.*

There lives within the very flame of love *Shakespeare.*

A kind of *wick* or snuff that will abate it. *Shakespeare.*

Bodies are inflamed wholly and immediately, without any *wick* to help the inflammation. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Little atoms of oil or melted wax continually ascend apace up the *wick* of a burning candle. *Dryden.*

The fungus parcels about the *wicks* of candles only signify a moist and pulvius air about them. *Brown's Vulgar Err.*

W1CKED. *adj.* [Of this common word the etymology is very obscure; *wicca*, is an *enchanter*; *wiccan*, is to *oppress*; *wiccan*, to *curse*; *wicca*, is *crooked*; all these however *Skinner* rejects for *vitiatum*, Latin. Perhaps it is a compound of *wic*, *vile*, *bad*, and *head*, *malum caput*.]

1. Given to vice; not good; flagitious; morally bad.

The dwelling place of the *wicked* shall come to nought. *Job.*

And as the better spirit, when she doth bear *Davies.*

A scorn of death, doth shew she cannot die; *Milton.*

So when the *wicked* foul death's face doth fear, *Davies.*

Ev'n when she proves her own eternity. *Milton.*

He of their *wicked* ways shall them admonish. *Milton.*

But since thy veins paternal virtue fires, *Pope's Odyssey.*

Go and succeed! the rivals aims despise; *Pope's Odyssey.*

For never, never *wicked* man was wife. *Pope's Odyssey.*

2. It is a word of ludicrous or slight blame.

That same *wicked* ballad of Venus, that blind rascally boy, that abuses every one's eyes because his own are out, let him be judge how deep I am in love. *Shakespeare.*

3. Cursed; baseful; pernicious; bad in effect.

The *wicked* weed which there the fox did lay, *Hudibras.*

From underneath his head he took away. *Hudibras.*

As *wicked* dew as e'er my mother bruth'd, *Shakespeare's Temp.*

With raven's feather from unwholsome fen, *Shakespeare's Temp.*

Drop on you both. *Shakespeare's Temp.*

W1CKEDLY. *adv.* [from *wicked*.] Criminally; corruptly; badly.

I would now send him where they all should fee, *Shakespeare.*

Clear as the light his heart shines; where no man *Shakespeare.*

Could be so *wickedly* or fondly stupid, *Shakespeare.*

But should cry out, he saw, touch'd, felt *wickedness*, *Shakespeare.*

And grasp'd it. *Shakespeare.*

He behaved himself with great modesty and wonderful repentance; being convinced in his conscience that he had done *wickedly*. *Clarendon.*

That thou may'st the better bring about *Dryden.*

Thy wishes, thou art *wickedly* devout. *Dryden.*

'Tis phrase absurd to call a villain great: *Pope.*

Who *wickedly* is wise, or madly brave, *Pope.*

Is but the more a fool, the more a knave. *Pope.*

W1CKEDNESS. *n. f.* [from *wicked*.] Corruption of manners; guilt; moral ill.

It is not good that children should know any *wickedness*; old folks have discretion and know the world. *Shakespeare.*

These tents thou saw'st so pleasant, were the tents *Shakespeare.*

Of *wickedness*; wherein shall dwell his race *Shakespeare.*

Who slew his br ther. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

W1CKER. *adj.* [w1gre, a twig, Danish; *w1ggen*, Dutch.] Made of small sticks.

Each one a little *wicker* basket had *Spenser.*

Made of fine twigs, entrail'd curiously; *Spenser.*

In which they gather'd flow'rs. *Spenser.*

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The long broad shields, made up of *wicker* rods, which are commonly used among the northern Irish, but especially among the Scots, are brought from the Scythians. *Spenser.*

If your influence be quite damm'd up *Spenser.*

With black usurping mists, some gentle taper, *Spenser.*

'Tough a rush candle from the *wicker* hole *Spenser.*

Of some clay habitation, visit us *Spenser.*

With thy long-level'd rule of streaming light. *Milton.*

A foolish painter drew January sitting in a *wicker* chair, with four nightcaps on by the fire, and without doors green trees, as if it had been in the midst of July. *Peacocks.*

W1CKET. *n. f.* [wicked, Welsh; *wicket*, Fr. *wicket*, Dutch.] A small gate.

When none yielded, her unruly page, *Fairy Queen.*

With his rude claws the *wicket* open rent, *Fairy Queen.*

And let her in. *Fairy Queen.*

These *wickets* of the foul are plac'd on high, *Davies.*

Because all sounds do lightly mount aloft. *Davies.*

Now St. Peter at heav'n's *wicket* seems *Milton.*

To wait them with his keys. *Milton.*

The cave was now a common way, *Dryden.*

The *wicket*, often open'd, knew the key. *Dryden.*

The chattering with dissenters, and dodging about this or the other ceremony, is like opening a few *wickets*, by which no more than one can get in at a time. *Swift.*

W1DE. *adj.* [piece, Saxon; *w1d*, Dutch.]

1. Broad; extended far each way.

They found far pasture, and the land was *wide* and quiet. *Chren. iv. 40.*

He wand'ring long a *wider* circle made, *Pope.*

And many-linguag'd nations he survey'd. *Pope.*

2. Broad to a certain degree: as *three inches wide*.

3. Deviating; remote.

Many of the fathers were far *wide* from the understanding of this place. *Raleigh.*

Consider the absurdities of that distinction betwixt the act and the obliquity, and the contrary being so *wide* from the truth of scripture and the attributes of God, and so noxious to good life, we may certainly conclude, that to the perpetration of whatfoever sin, there is not at all any predestination of God. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*

To move

His laughter at their quaint opinions *wide*. *Milton.*

Of *wide* of nature must he act a part, *Tickell.*

Make love in tropes, in bombast break his heart. *Tickell.*

W1DE. *adv.*

1. At a distance. In this sense *wide* seems to be sometimes an advb.

A little *wide*,

There was a holy chapel edify'd, *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

Wherein the hermit went to pray *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

His holy things each morn and even tide. *Fairy Queen.*

Of this I have heard more from others who lived much among the Chinese; a people whose way of thinking seems to lie as *wide* of ours in Europe as their country does. *Temple.*

2. With great extent.

Of all these bounds rich'd

With pteous rivers, and *wide* skirted meads, *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

We make thee lady. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

On the east-side of the garden place, *Milton.*

Cherubic watch; and of a sword the flame *Milton.*

Wide-waving; all approach far off to fright. *Milton.*

With huge two-handed sway, *Milton.*

Brandish'd aloft, the horrid edge came down, *Milton.*

Wide wafting *Milton.*

The south wind rose, and with black wings. *Milton.*

Wide hovering all the clouds together drove *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

From under heav'n. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Stretch'd at ease the panting lady lies, *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

To shun the fervor of meridian skies; *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

While sweating flaves catch ev'ry breeze of air, *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

And with *wide*-spreading fans refresh the fair. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Yet *wide* was spread their fame in ages past, *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

And poets once had promis'd they should last. *Pope.*

W1DELY. *adv.* [from *wide*.]

1. With great extent each way.

Any that confides how immense the intervals of the chaos are, in proportion to the bulk of the atoms, will hardly induce himself to believe, that particles so *widely* diffused could ever throng one another to a compact texture. *Bentley.*

2. Remotely; far.

Let him exercise the freedom of his reason, and his mind will be strengthened, and the light which the remote parts of truth will give to one another, will so assist his judgment, that he will seldom be *widely* out. *Locke.*

To W1DEN. *v. a.* [from *wide*.] To make wide; to extend.

So now the gates are open; now prove good seconds; 'Tis for the followers, fortune *widens* them, *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

Not for the flyers. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

These accidents when they first happen, seem but small and contemptible; but by degrees they branch out and *widen* them-

WID

selves into a numerous train of mischievous consequences. *South.*

He was accustomed to sleep with a peaceable nose, settling in his slumber the wrinkles of it, and the anger which commonly mounted to that part; but now his nostrils were *widened* to the last degree of fury. *Dryden's Duffejney.*

To W1DEN. *v. n.* To grow wide; to extend itself.

It is in this that the species of brutes are discriminated from man, and that proper difference, wherein they are wholly separated, and which at last *widens* to so vast a distance. *Locke.*

With her the temple ev'ry moment grew, *Pope.*

Upward the columns shoot, the roofs ascend, *Pope.*

And arches *widen*, and long files extend. *Pope.*

W1DNESS. *n. f.* [from *wide*.]

1. Breadth; large extent each way.

The rugged hair began to fall away; *Dryden.*

The sweetness of her eyes did only stay, *Dryden.*

Though not so large; her crooked horns decrease; *Dryden.*

The *widness* of her jaws and nostrils cease. *Dryden.*

2. Comparative breadth.

Within the same annual time, the center of the earth is carried above fifty times as far round the orbis magnus, whose *widness* we now assume to be twenty thousand terrestrial diameters. *Bentley's Sermons.*

W1DGEON. A water-fowl not unlike